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1. "This prisoner of war camp is located near Stalino in the Donbas. At the end of January 1953, the camp had 17000 prisoners of war. Most of these were Germans, some were Hungarians, and about 350 of them were Czechoslovakians (mostly Slovaks) who had been deported to this camp.
2. "In January 1953 the commandant of the camp was Colonel Ivan Kusnicuk, a Ukrainian from Kiev. His treatment of the prisoners was moderate. The deputy commandant was Major Vasil Taficuk, a fanatic Communist of very poor character. In addition to these two, there were eight political commissars.
3. "Food: The food in the camp was improved in 1952. Qualitatively and quantitatively, there were three classes of food given the prisoners according to their status. For instance: Class I food was given to regular prisoners; Class II food was given to those prisoners who surpassed their work norms; Class III food was given to Soviet guards and political commissars.
4. "Soviet guards and political commissars were paid for their work; general

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prisoner laborers were paid 600 rubles monthly; (some specialists were paid 2500 rubles monthly). [It is not clear whether these prisoners were Soviets or not]. Reductions in cost of food, rent, and clothing (suits and shoes) were available to some, in addition to coupons which were given only as a reward for extraordinary output.

5. "Health conditions in this camp were generally poor due to treatment the prisoners received in the early days of the camp when they were treated like animals and received little food. A majority of them developed stomach and intestinal weaknesses.

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